GIS Welcome Wagon
A Guide for New DWR Employees Working with GIS

Welcome to the DWR GIS user community! This document may help to provide answers to your questions about accessing GIS software and data for your work in DWR. At this time, DWR has no central GIS service center. DWR has an **Enterprise license** for ArcGIS software. **The Division of Technology Services**, which includes your LAN administrators, provides support for installing and updating ArcGIS software on your work computer. Through the Enterprise GIS Committee, efforts are underway to build an enterprise geodatabase – the **DWR Atlas**. Below are some steps you can take to get connected to the software, data, and GIS-related activities in DWR.

Software

Request installation of the latest version of ArcGIS and the extensions you think you will need. Your local IT support person can do this upon receipt of the request in AquaAssist (http://aquaassist/AquaAssist/Home.aspx). Your local IT support person may also be able to tell you who the other ArcGIS users are in your work area. These folks can be a valuable resource.

Web Portal, Email Listserv, and other web help

Explore the web portal for information on the activities of the DWR Enterprise GIS Committee and its subcommittees at https://dwrgis.water.ca.gov/home. Sign up for the DWR GIS Workgroup listserv at this site. This is a two-way discussion forum for announcements, information, and requests for data and help from DWR's GIS users. To post a message on the listserv, type this address into the To: line of your email message:
DWR_GIS_WORKGROUP@LISTSERV.STATE.CA.GOV
Other helpful websites are
http://www.esri.com/ for information related to ArcGIS products and support
http://gis.stackexchange.com/, a question and answer site for GIS professionals

Training

Watch the emails from the DWR_GIS_Workgroup listserv for information on GIS training opportunities. Refer to the DWR GIS Training and Outreach Subcommittee's web portal for other information. https://dwrgis.water.ca.gov/training.
Esri web-based, self-study training courses (Virtual Campus) are available at no charge to the Division/Office on an as-needed basis to any DWR employee. The courses are listed here:http://training.esri.com/gateway/index.cfm?fa=search.results&CourseTypeID=1

To enroll in a Virtual Campus course, please follow the usual procedure for a Training Request using form DWR 4142. After the necessary approvals have been obtained, the Training Coordinator should contact one of the ESRI training sub-administrators on the list at the end of this message for assistance with enrollment in the class. The student will have one year to complete the course and the certificate of completion will be available for download after the student successfully passes the online exam. Some of the web courses available at the http://training.esri.com website are free. Anyone can access these courses by setting up a username and password (a.k.a. Esri global account). Employees should check with their supervisors to determine if a DWR 4142 is needed. There are also 60-minute recorded training seminars that are available for free, on demand, at the http://training.esri.com website.

Recordings of the technical sessions at the 2015 Esri User Conference are available to DWR employees. Go to https://www.sok-media.com/ and click on "User Login." The username is esri2015full1 and the password is esri2015. After you log in click on "Access Online Streaming Content" then select "Conferences" then "ESRI" then "UC2015."

Solving Problems

If you need help solving GIS problems, there are resources available. We recommend the following sequence:

*Use the **HELP** menu item in ArcMap. ArcGIS Desktop Help or the ArcGIS Resource Center links will direct you to specific areas of support.*

*Review Esri on-line resources at this web site: http://support.esri.com/Check out the **Forums, Blogs, Knowledge Base, and Downloads** for patches or service pack availability*

*Seek help from co-workers. If help isn't available in your office, post a message to the **DWR GIS Workgroup listserv.** (When you get an answer, it's nice to close the loop by posting a summary of the solution).*

*If the problem is a software failure issue, contact your Authorized Technical Manager (**ATM**) for Esri Tech Help. The ATM will contact the ESRI Technical Support team and you will then be contacted directly by the Esri Technical representative. Click here for a list of ATM's.*

Where's the Data?

The Enterprise GIS Committee is working diligently to promote authoritative GIS datasets to the DWR Atlas, and ArcSDE enterprise server. To connect to the DWR Atlas, there are two ways, here are the instructions:

One, set up database connections. To connect, two things are needed:

1) SDE Connection files, the following script will perform the task automatically:

> For ArcGIS 10.2 users: \\nasgispr\EntGIS\sdeConnectionFiles\copyProd-SDE-W7-ArcGIS10.2.bat

> For ArcGIS 10.3 users: \\nasgispr\EntGIS\sdeConnectionFiles\copyProd-SDE-W7-ArcGIS10.3.bat

2) It is possible MS SQL Native Client is already running on your machine, so Step 1 may get you there by itself. Alternatively, MS SQL Native Client needs to be installed, which be located here:

> \\nasgispr\EntGIS\mssqlnativeclient

If you cannot install it yourself, then you should submit an AquaAssist ticket to client support to install it.

The second way in accessing the Atlas datasets is through DataSpace. DataSpace is part of standard DWR ArcGIS install now, so start up ArcMap and look for the button titled "DataSpace." In the Console window click on "GIS Libraries", and you should see "DWR Atlas." If you look in there you will be datasets that can be added to ArcMap by right clicking on one and selecting "Add Layer to ArcMap." (Please Note: there is currently a bug that doesn't allow DataSpace to be installed with a new 10.3 installation. It still works when upgrading from 10.2 to 10.3. We are working to fix this, Thanks for your patience!)

DATA STEWARDS ARE NEEDED: Contact Joel.Dudas@water.ca.gov or Greg.Smith@water.ca.gov for more information.

DWR Image Services are available through a **GIS Server connection in Arc Catalog**. Add **ArcGIS Server** with the following url: https://parcgis.arcgis.services Data includes current and historic imagery for the entire State as well as local projects, elevation data, seamless USGS quad maps and more.

Map and feature services are available to us at http://services.gis.ca.gov/ArcGIS/services

The Department of Fish and Wildlife's GIS Server is available at https://map.dfg.ca.gov/arcgis/services

For other data needs, check with your fellow GIS users in your office.

Get Involved! Join a subcommittee group and volunteer to work on GIS related tasks, network with others, and keep current on the technology.

List of ESRI Training Sub-Administrators

Please contact any of these for assistance with enrollment in ESRI Virtual Campus Training Courses:

Administrator: Danny Luong (Danny.Luong@water.ca.gov)

Sub-Administrators	Phone Number	E-mail Address
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